

Thursday, May 29, 1947

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate debated rent-control extension, adopting various amendments; House authorized national potato-surplus study and passed 11 District of Columbia measures.

Senate group reached tentative agreement on National Defense Establishment bill.

Federal aid to education hearings concluded by House unit.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages 6034-6040

Bills Introduced: Seven bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1362-S. 1368. Page 6035

Bills Reported: Bills were reported as follows:

H. R. 765, private relief bill (S. Rept. 210);

S. 1265, to amend D. C. Code on liability for causing death by wrongful act (S. Rept. 211); and

S. 1266, relating to admissibility of testimony (S. Rept. 212). Page 6035

Rent Control: Senate debated S. 1017, continuation of rent control, and adopted the following amendments by voice vote:

Senator Buck's, to provide for the administration of rent control by the Office of Housing Expediter and continuing the office to February 29, 1948; Senator Ellender's, permitting the eviction in certain cases of tenants from public housing; Senator McCarthy's, requiring the decontrol of at least 5 percent of the units each month; and Senator Ives', clarifying provision on transfer of rent control to the States.

Senator Hawkes' amendment, permitting a 15-percent increase in rents over the September 1, 1946, figure when tenant and landlord agree on a lease, was adopted 48 yeas to 26 nays. Pages 6040-6057

Nominations: Received the following nominations: Max M. Bulkeley, to be United States attorney in Colorado; 30 appointments in the Diplomatic and Foreign Service; and 9,212 in the Army. Pages 6057-6091

Reports on Committee Meetings

FERTILIZER

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry: Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson appeared before the

committee to oppose S. 1251, national soil fertility policy and program, but stated he believed the Congress should establish a national fertilizer policy. At a subsequent date the Secretary will submit the Department's plan for such legislation. Hearings continue on Monday, June 2.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on H. R. 3123, Interior Department appropriation bill, concluded 4 weeks of hearings.

NATIONAL DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT

Committee on Armed Services: In executive session the committee concluded revising and tentatively approved an amended version of S. 758, to create a National Defense Establishment, and then agreed to meet again Wednesday, June 4, for final vote on reporting the revised bill to the Senate.

ALCOHOLIC CLINIC

Committee on the District of Columbia: Subcommittee on S. 757, to establish an Alcoholic Clinic in the District of Columbia, heard testimony from Senator Baldwin; Selden D. Bacon, chairman, Connecticut Alcoholic Commission; and Elvin Jellinek, Yale University.

ST. LAWRENCE WATERWAY

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee continued hearings on S. J. Res. 111, St. Lawrence Waterway, with testimony from the following proponents: W. C. Cowling, Detroit; North Dakota Governor Fred G. Aandahl; H. E. Ekern, Deep Waterways Commission; F. Hugh Burnes, Northern Federation Chambers of Commerce; Henry La Liberte, Cutler-Manger Co.; Under Secretary of War Kenneth Royall; and American Farm Bureau President Edward A. O'Neal.

Opposition testimony will begin June 11, but one additional session for proponents is scheduled prior to this date.

RAILROAD FINANCING

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Subcommittee on S. 249, railroad financing bill, heard favorable testimony from Arthur Jansen, Barrons Magazine, and Frank B. Hand, Jr., Alabama-Georgia-Florida Railroad. Amendments to the bill were suggested by J. Harlin O'Connell, Wilbur LaRoe, and Henry K. Norton, all representing Susquehanna & Western Railroad. Subcommittee resumes hearings June 4.

On June 10, subcommittee will open hearings on S. Res. 111, to investigate restrictions on foreign travel.

VETERANS

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: Subcommittee on Veterans met in executive session and agreed to report to the full committee H. R. 2368, to authorize an appropriation of \$3 million as a revolving fund in lieu of \$1½ million for loans to veterans for vocational and rehabilitation purposes, without amendment; and S. 1056, to amend the Servicemen's Readjustment Act to permit adjustment of certain benefits authorized to veterans, with perfecting amendments.

The subcommittee also considered bills on veterans' subsistence and increasing ceilings for on-the-job training, but did not take any action on them. Subcommittee meets next on Wednesday, June 4.

HEALTH LEGISLATION

Committee on Labor and Public Welfare: Dr. Carl Flagstad and Dr. Sterling V. Mead, representing the American Dental Association, appeared before the Subcommittee on Health to support S. 545, to create an independent National Health Agency. Hearings continue Wednesday, June 4.

INDIANS

Committee on Public Lands: Subcommittee on Indians met in executive session to consider various Indian bills.

SALE OF MAGNESIUM PLANT IN NEVADA

Special Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program and Surplus Property Subcommittee of the *Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments:* The committee and subcommittee met jointly to consider the sale of the basic magnesium plant at Henderson, Nev., in which the Federal Government has \$140 million invested, and heard the following persons discuss the problem: Senators Ferguson and McCarran; WAA Administrator Robert M. Littlejohn, accompanied by other officials of the WAA; Alan B. Brown, chief counsel, and Frank T. Ronan, Director, Office of Defense Plants; Maston White, solicitor, and Harvey F. McPhail, Bureau of Reclamation, both of the Department of Interior.

It was established that it is costing the Federal Government over \$1 million a year to retain this plant and keep it in operation. Committee adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.

SMALL BUSINESS—STEEL

Special Committee to Study Problems of American Small Business: Continuing hearings on steel shortages affecting smaller manufacturers and users, the Steel Subcommittee heard David Hillstrom, Corry-Jamestown Corp., Corry, Pa.; and Arthur Boehm, Boehm Pressed Steel Co., Cleveland, discuss premiums paid on gray-market steel, withdrawals of steel companies from distribution in certain areas, and vertical integration of steel-producing companies into warehousing and fabricating functions. Herbert M. Karp explained his involvement in alleged gray-market operations. Hearings continue on Tuesday, June 3.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: Seven public bills, H. R. 3668-3673 and 3678; four private bills, H. R. 3674-3677; and eight resolutions, H. Res. 220-227, were introduced.

Pages 6091-6092, 6094, 6119-6120

Bills Reported: Bills and resolutions were reported, as follows:

H. Res. 220, rule providing for consideration of, and waiving all points of order on, S. 993 providing for rein-

corporation of Export-Import Bank of Washington (H. Rept. 484);

H. Res. 221, rule providing for 1 hour general debate on H. R. 2798, amending Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, regarding State conversion of Federal Savings and Loan Associations (H. Rept. 485);

H. Res. 222, rule providing for 1 hour general debate and waiving all points of order on H. R. 2799, amending Federal Home Loan Bank and National Housing Acts

relative to certain capital-stock retirements (H. Rept. 486);

H. Res. 223, rule providing 2 hours general debate and waiving all points of order on H. R. 3492, providing for expeditious disposal of war housing (H. Rept. 487);

H. Res. 224, rule providing for 2 hours general debate and waiving all points of order on H. R. 3342, U. S. Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1947 (H. Rept. 488);

H. Res. 225, providing for 1 hour general debate on H. J. Res. 207, International Refugee Organization bill (H. Rept. 489);

H. Res. 226, rule providing for 3 hours general debate and waiving all points of order on H. R. 2455, creating National Mineral Resources Division in the Interior Department (H. Rept. 490);

H. J. Res. 96, authorizing President to issue posthumously to late Lt. Gen. Roy S. Geiger a commission as general, U. S. Marine Corps (H. Rept. 492);

H. R. 2826, amending Civil Service Retirement Act of 1930 to provide annuities for investigatory personnel of 20 years' service in the FBI (H. Rept. 493);

Pursuant to H. Res. 111, investigation by Committee on Education and Labor on work stoppages arising out of jurisdictional disputes in AFL building trades in northern New Jersey (H. Rept. 494); and

H. R. 3678, War Department appropriations bill for 1948 (H. Rept. 495).

Pages 6091-6092, 6094, 6119

Tax Bill: Conferees filed a report (H. Rept. 491), on H. R. 1, reduction of personal income taxes.

Page 6119

Wool Bill: House insists on its amendments to S. 814, wool support bill, agrees to conference asked, and the Speaker appointed Representatives Hope, August H. Andresen, Johnson of Illinois, Hill, Flannagan, Cooley, and Pace as managers on the part of the House.

Page 6096

Potato Surplus: Considered and agreed to H. Res. 166, authorizing Committee on Agriculture to study national potato surplus.

Pages 6096-6105

Home Rule: Considered and agreed to H. Res. 195, authorizing the Committee on the District of Columbia to study District reorganization and home rule.

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District of Columbia: Pursuant to a previous order entered into, the following bills from the District of Columbia Committee were considered, and passed—

Parole Board: H. R. 494, as amended, creating a D. C. Board of Parole.

Life Insurance: H. R. 1633, amending D. C. Life Insurance Regulation Act to permit benefit payments to

administrators of insured persons wherein named beneficiary predeceases such named insured.

Roadbed Sale: H. R. 1893, authorizing roadbed sale, E Street SW., between Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets.

Police Band: H. R. 2470, authorizing establishment of a band in the Metropolitan Police force.

White House Police: S. 1022, as amended (in lieu of H. R. 2947), authorizing an adequate White House Police force.

Code Procedure: H. R. 3235, as amended, amending the D. C. Code with respect to abandonment of condemnation procedure.

Bribery: H. R. 3515, as amended, relating to bribery in athletic contests.

Public Ceremonies: H. R. 3547, as amended, authorizing funds for public ceremonies in the District of Columbia.

Methodist Home: H. R. 3604, authorizing the D. C. Methodist Home to make certain changes in its certificate of incorporation with respect to stated objects.

Teachers' Salaries: H. R. 3611, as amended, regulating salaries of teachers, school officers, and other employees of the D. C. Board of Education.

Pages 6105-6119

Reports on Committee Meetings

FARM PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Held hearings on long-range farm program and heard M. D. Ronald, publisher, Daily Republic, Richmond, S. Dak., and Noble Clark, associate director, agriculture experiment station, University of Wisconsin.

MILITARY

Committee on Armed Services: Retirement Subcommittee completed hearings on H. R. 2744, Army Vitalization and Retirement Equalization Act of 1946.

Organization Subcommittee held hearings on H. R. 3471, to authorize leases of real and personal property, and heard Under Secretary of War Kenneth Royall and Hudson Cox, General Counsel for the Navy Department, both of whom testified in favor of the bill. Subcommittee ordered the bill, with an amendment, favorably reported to the full committee.

RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION

Committee on Banking and Currency: Continued hearings on continuation of RFC and heard John D. Goodloe, Chairman, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, who testified on nonwar loans and investments. *Hearings will be continued next week.*

FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Education completed hearings on various bills pertaining to Federal aid to education, and heard M. D. Collins, State Superintendent of Schools, Atlanta, Ga.; Willard E. Givens, executive secretary, National Education Association; and Mrs. Eugene Meyer, social problems, Washington Post, all of whom testified in favor of the legislation.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Met in executive session on committee reorganization and, in addition to the existing subcommittees dealing with the geographical areas, authorized the chairman to constitute at least six subcommittees along functional lines; and any other subcommittees that may become necessary. The titles and principal areas of jurisdiction will be as follows:

1. Subcommittee on National Security: Robert B. Chipfield, Ill., chairman—To deal with all matters affecting our foreign relations that concern questions of national security, including armaments, bases, and other military factors, and the operation of our high strategy generally;

2. Subcommittee on Foreign Economic Policy: John M. Vorys, Ohio, chairman—To deal with the protection of all American economic interests abroad of every type and to consider and review a program covering all methods of extending foreign aid or loans on the basis of a study of requirements and the capacities of other countries, both to assist and to repay;

3. Subcommittee on Information and Communication: Karl E. Mundt, South Dakota, chairman—To deal with the international problems of transportation, communications, education, and the exchange of information, including the problem of central intelligence;

4. Subcommittee on State Department Organization and Personnel: Bartel J. Jonkman, Michigan, chairman—To deal with the loyalty and adequacy of all personnel and instruments of foreign policy under the control of the United States, and especially the State Department and the Foreign Service;

5. Subcommittee on National and International Movements: Frances P. Bolton, Ohio, chairman—To deal with movements devoted to the improvement of health, welfare, and social problems; as well as those aspects of communism, fascism, nationalism, and the growth of political ideas basically affecting international relations;

6. Subcommittee on International Organizations and Law: Lawrence H. Smith, Wisconsin, chairman—To deal with the development of the United Nations, and other major forms of international organization, including the development of international law;

The committee authorized the organization of a staff in accordance with the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 under a staff director, Dr. W. Y. Elliott, of Harvard University, and the appointment of Mr. Boyd Crawford as the administrative officer for the committee.

NATURAL GAS ACT

Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce: Continued public hearings on bills to amend the Natural Gas Act and heard Judge Robert M. Morgan, assistant director of law, city of Cleveland, Ohio; Representatives Worley, Lyle, Rizley, and Zimmerman; Charles S. Thomas, corporation counsel, city of Rockford, Ill.; Joseph Pursglove, Jr., vice president, Pittsburgh Consolidated Coal Co.; John M. Crimmins, law department, Koppers Co., Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa.; James W. Haley, attorney, National Coal Association, Washington, D. C.; John Schreiber, executive secretary, Eastern States Retail Dealers Conference, New York, N. Y.; John E. Benton, National Association of Railroad & Utilities Commissioners, Washington, D. C.; and Hon. Nelson Lee Smith, Chairman, Federal Power Commission.

EVACUATION CLAIMS COMMISSION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee No. 2 conducted public hearings on H. R. 2768, to create an Evacuation Claims Commission under the general supervision of the Secretary of the Interior to adjudicate claims of Japanese evacuated during the war, and heard Hon. Oscar L. Chapman, Under Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.; Dillon S. Myer, former Director, War Relocation Authority, now Commissioner, Federal Public Housing Authority, Washington, D. C.; Representative Engle; Hito Okada, national president, Japanese-American Citizens League, Salt Lake City, Utah; Professor Leonard Bloom, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif.; Elmer J. Hewitt, vice president, Meat and Cannery Workers Union, Local No. 56, AFL; Rev. F. Nelsen Schlegel, Evangelical and Reformed Church, Washington, D. C.; Mike M. Hasaoka, national legislative director, Japanese-American Citizens League, antidiscrimination committee, Washington, D. C.; and Malcolm E. Pitts, Department of the Interior, formerly with War Relocation Authority.

FBI RETIREMENT

Committee on Post Office and Civil Service: Met in executive session and ordered favorably reported H. R. 2826, FBI retirement bill.

INDIANS—MINING

Committee on Public Lands: Subcommittee on Indian Affairs held hearings on H. R. 3372, authorizing certain agreements with respect to rights in helium-bearing gas

lands in the Navajo Indian Reservation, N. Mex., and H. R. 3173, relative to restrictions applicable to Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma, and heard Purl Willis, San Diego, Calif., speaking as an individual in favor of H. R. 3372; Roscoe A. Cattell, Chief, Petroleum and Natural Gas Division, Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, who also testified in favor of H. R. 3372; Representative Stigler, who testified in favor of his bill, H. R. 3173; John H. Provinse, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, who stated no objection to H. R. 3173. Both bills were ordered reported to full committee; H. R. 3173 as amended.

Subcommittee on Mines and Mining held hearings on H. R. 3022, Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands; H. R. 3106, amending Organic Act of United States Geological Survey; and H. R. 2354, revesting and reconveying certain lands under the mineral land laws, and heard Jacob N. Wasserman, Chief Counsel, Bureau of Land Management, who gave views of the Department of the Interior on H. R. 3022; Representative Barrett, who testified on behalf of his bill, H. R. 3022; John Sieker, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, who testified on H. R. 3022; Peter Q. Nyce, attorney, Washington, D. C., representing independent oil companies in favor of H. R. 3022; and Herbert J. Slaughter, Assistant Solicitor, Department of the Interior, on H. R. 3022; Julian D. Sears, administrative geologist, Department of the Interior, who testified in favor of H. R. 3106, Representative Ellsworth, who gave testimony on his bill, H. R. 2354; and Jacob N. Wasserman, who gave the views of the Department of the Interior on H. R. 2354. H. R. 3106, H. R. 3022, with amendments, and H. R. 2354, with amendments, were ordered favorably reported to the full committee.

RULES

Committee on Rules: Heard Representative Vorys in favor of a resolution making in order consideration of H. J. Res. 207, providing for membership and participation by the United States in the International Refugee Organization and authorizing an appropriation therefor. A resolution providing 2 hours of debate was ordered reported. The committee also heard Representatives Short, Crawford, Murdock, and Rockwell in favor of a resolution providing consideration of H. R. 2455, to establish within the Department of the Interior a National Minerals Resources Division. A resolution waiving points of order and providing 3 hours of general debate was ordered reported.

TAX REVISION

Committee on Ways and Means: Continued hearings on general tax revisions, and heard Representative San-

born; Theodore Gamble, chairman of the board, American Theatre Association, New York, N. Y.; Julian Brylawski, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, New Haven, Conn.; and A. Brady McSwigan, president, National Association Amusement Parks, Pools and Beaches, Pittsburgh, Pa., all of whom recommended revisions on admission taxes. Hearings will be continued next week.

REPORT ON JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LABOR BILL

Conferees on H. R. 3020, labor bill, reached agreement and expect to file a conference report Monday, June 2. (For previous reports on the meeting of the conference, see Digest, pp. D188, 192, 197, 201, 205, and 217.)

INCOME-TAX REDUCTION

Conferees on H. R. 1, to provide for individual income-tax reduction, in executive session to compromise the differences between the House- and Senate-passed versions of that bill, reached an agreement to file a conference report (H. Rept. 491), providing that all of the Senate amendments to H. R. 1 be accepted, with the exception that the Senate amendment, which decreased the 20 percent reduction on income up to \$302,396 allowed by the House to 15 percent from \$79,729 up to \$302,396, was modified so that a 20 percent tax reduction would be allowed on all income up to approximately \$137,000, and 15 percent from the \$137,000 up to \$302,396. (For details on Senate amendments to the House-passed version on H. R. 1, see Digest, pp. D158 and D214.)

The House is expected to act on the conference report on Monday, June 2.

BILLS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT

(*New Laws*)

(For last listing of public laws, see p. D209)

H. R. 193, to amend Mineral Leasing Act to provide that 37½ percent of the royalties and sales shall go to Alaska and the States concerned. Signed May 27, 1947 (P. L. 77);

H. R. 1584, authorizing operation of a museum on Fort Hall Reservation, Idaho. Signed May 27, 1947 (P. L. 78); and

H. R. 2123, to fix the compensation of locomotive inspectors. Signed May 27, 1947 (P. L. 79).